Water pollution

†1853. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether water pollution has increased due to urbanization and industrialization;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to check water pollution; and

(c) to what extent the efforts to check water pollution are getting fructified alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Increasing quantities of domestic waste water and industrial waste water generated and further non-availability of sufficient dilution water in rivers have been responsible for putting the water quality in water bodies including rivers in certain stretches and lakes to stress.

(b) The steps taken to abate pollution of water bodies Include:

- Notification of effluent standards for various industries;
- Identification of industries discharging effluents into rivers and lakes for setting up of pollution control devices;
- Regular monitoring for compliance of effluent standards;
- Legal action against non-complying units; and
- Implementation of National River Conservation Plan to check pollution in rivers through interception and diversion works to capture the raw sewage flowing into the rivers and divert them for treatment and setting up of sewage treatment plants to treat the diverted sewage.

(c) Water quality has shown improvement in rivers taken up under the National River Conservation Plan, except in certain stretches, as revealed by the water quality monitoring undertaken by independent reputed institutions during lean period when the flow is minimal.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.